

the ROADRUNNER

Nebraska ♦ Department ♦ of ♦ Roads

December 2014/January 2015



Season's Greetings

Nebraska Department of Roads

Communication Division
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Governor Dave Heineman

Highway Commission

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
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| E.J. Militti, Jr. | Ronald Books |
| David Copple | Greg Wolford |
| James Kindig | Jerome Fagerland |

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Deputy DirectorMoe Jamshidi
Deputy DirectorKhalil Jaber

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Business Technology SupportBill Wehling
CommunicationMary Jo Oie
ConstructionClaude Oie
ControllerMarilyn Hayes
Government AffairsAndy Cunningham
Human ResourcesSue Larson
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Roadway DesignJames Knott
Traffic EngineeringDan Waddle

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District 2Timothy W. Weander
District 3Kevin Domogalla
District 4Wesley Wahlgren
District 5Doug Hoevet
District 6Gary Thayer
District 7Kurt Vosburg
District 8Mark Kovar

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The information in this newsletter is contributed by employees, retirees and friends of NDOR.



From the Director

Change is in the Air



Randy Peters

Change is in the air as we head into 2015. From a newly elected governor and eighteen new state senators to two new members in our U.S. Congressional delegation, Nebraskans are participating in a historic changing of the guard. For an agency like ours that prides itself on strategic thinking, change is something we embrace and manage. We measure, we plan, we design, we

construct, we maintain, we operate, we repeat. It's continuous. We know that our tools and methods inevitably evolve and will change, especially if we are to make steady progress toward achieving our goals.

One ongoing example of managed change that you can expect to see playing out in the coming year is related to our business documents. I don't have to tell you, we create a lot of them. Our new and improved record retention plan is nearly ready to roll out. Revised procedures will ensure we save documents that must be saved, and equally important, it will give us clear guidance for when and how to dispose of documents that have served their purpose. I know the Agency Records Retention team has visited with representatives of every district and every division, communicating our vision, receiving input and planning the transition. I want to thank all of you who have contributed to this important effort.

In the year just past, we've had much to celebrate. We completed a successful construction season; we opened a new bridge across the Missouri River south of Bellevue; the Reason Foundation rated us the number two State Transportation Agency in the country based on the quality of our pavements, our bridges and our operational performance; and our ECO Database System was recognized by the ACEC/Nebraska. A long-time employee reflected on 60 years at NDOR and is still a happy, productive employee today!

Thanks to each and every one of you for your contributions to making Nebraska's road network the best possible statewide transportation system. Have a great Holiday Season, buckle up every time and stay safe. ♦

Hoebet New District 5 Engineer

Doug Hoebet has been named the new District 5 Engineer in Gering for the Nebraska Department of Roads. District 5 includes Banner, Box Butte, Cheyenne, Dawes, Deuel, Garden, Kimball, Morrill, Scotts Bluff, Sioux and Sheridan counties. Hoebet, a licensed professional engineer, succeeds Craig R. Lind, who retired after 43 years at Roads, including 11 years as District 5 Engineer.

Hoebet has worked at the Roads Department for more than 17 years, including the past 11 years as District 5 Construction Engineer. Prior to that, he worked in the consultant coordination and expressway design units in the Roadway Design Division. He also served as railroad liaison engineer in the Rail & Public Transportation Division.

Born and raised in Scottsbluff, Hoebet worked in the District 5 construction office in Scottsbluff for five summers while attending college. In 1997, he received his Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Wyoming in Laramie.

Hoebet said he has enjoyed getting to know the people he has worked with both inside and outside of the department. He noted that regardless of the challenge, solutions arrive easier if you can build true rapport with those involved.

In discussing goals he would like to achieve in his new position, Hoebet said, "One of my first responsibilities is to make sure we have defined our 'destination'; in other words, I need to make sure we have clearly identified the expectations/result(s) for our core activities. If we have not defined them, I will collaborate with those involved with implementation to make sure we ask the 'right' questions to simplify our process and reach our goals."



Doug Hoebet

Hoebet noted that he has worked with fantastic people who are committed to accomplishing the department's mission and he appreciates the mentoring he has received from them, adding, "I would encourage all of us to recognize each

other for the help we have received, as well as take advantage of the opportunities we have in our lives to mentor those around us."

Hoebet, 41, and his wife, Jennifer, are both from the Scottsbluff area. They have two children, Nathan, 10 and Katie, 8. In his spare time, Hoebet enjoys activities that involve challenging his creative side, which can take the form of teaching and learning from his kids, creating visual art and developing entrepreneurial endeavors.

Craig Lind Retires

Craig Lind was born and raised in central Minnesota. He attended college at North Dakota State University, received his Bachelor

of Science degree in Civil Engineering in 1970 and began his career at NDOR that same year.

After a year at District 2 in Omaha working on I-80 east of 24th Street, he moved to Roadway Design in Lincoln. During his 10-year tenure there he was a unit leader, overseeing two rural squads; a resurfacing unit, and a start-up squad for the I-80 rebuild.

In 1983 he moved to District 5 as Construction Engineer, where he had the opportunity to help build many of the projects that he had designed. In 2003, he was named the District 5 Engineer. During his 30 years in both roles, he saw some interesting and challenging projects and especially enjoyed working with the Nebraska Historical Society archaeologist and University of Nebraska paleontologists on numerous construction projects. He found it very rewarding to share in the excitement when they uncovered a major find.

Lind noted that it has been an honor to be a part of NDOR for 43 years, adding that he will miss his friends at the department and will treasure the memories. ♦



What's the BuZZ?

What is OnBase?

The OnBase Client lets you:

- Create
- Retrieve
- Manage
- Distribute electronic documents

What does this mean for NDOR?

- Phase I - Goals - Scheduled to be complete by July 1, 2015
 - Migration of all documents from Falcon into OnBase
 - Training Plan for NDOR Staff

"How-to" training videos are being produced for:

- Document Retrieval
- Document Import
- Modifying Keywords
- Custom Queries
- Personal Page



Stay tuned... more to come!



Aerial view of US-75 and Bay Road near Plattsmouth, looking north toward the Platte River. The \$64 million project was completed one year ahead of schedule.

US-75 and Bay Road near Plattsmouth Completed One Year Ahead of Schedule

By Karl Burns
District 2

Major construction on U.S.-75 for 3.8 miles from Avenue "B"/Oak Hill Road in Plattsmouth to the north bank of the Platte River was completed in December, one year ahead of schedule.

Hawkins Construction Company, of Omaha, was the prime contractor on the project. The commitment of contractors and NDOR to project partnering, planning, communication and changes to the construction phasing contributed to the early project completion.

This project is an important link in the state's transportation system,

and is a segment of the US-75 Expressway System between Omaha and Nebraska City as designated in the 1988 NDOR Needs Study. The improvements were necessary due to increased traffic volumes, deteriorating pavements and bridges. It was contracted to be completed in 1,315 calendar days (3.6 years) with a construction start date in April 2012 and a scheduled completion date in November 2015.

US-75 was reconstructed to four-lane freeway and expressway standards. The south one-mile segment was designated expressway with at-grade intersections and the north 2½ miles was constructed to freeway standards due to the

higher traffic volumes, with a new interchange replacing the at-grade Bay Road-Webster Blvd./US-75 intersection. Approximately 2.7 miles of the Cass County road system was also reconstructed and intersections closed in order to connect the county road system at the designated access locations.

Future "Build Nebraska Act" projects north of the Platte River to Bellevue will complete the freeway system from Plattsmouth to Omaha and from Plattsmouth south to extend the expressway system to Nebraska City.

Nine Bridges

The \$64-million project included several phases and traffic shifts to
(see Plattsmouth on next page)

Plattsmouth (cont'd. from page 4)

accommodate the construction of nine bridges, 11 box culverts, 2.1 million cubic yards of excavation, 225,000 square yards of concrete pavement, 2.5 miles of culvert pipe and 2.7 miles of new county road construction consisting of 1.8 miles of asphalt pavement and 0.9 miles of gravel surfacing. Bridge construction quantities included 72,200 linear feet of H-piling, 3.2 million pounds of reinforcing steel and 18,500 cubic yards of concrete.

Due to environmental requirements, the new northbound US-75 Platte River Bridge was required to be completed in a 184-day construction window between August 1 and January 31 via a required temporary work bridge. Two construction seasons were needed to complete the north and south half of the bridge based on this time allowance. A 750-foot temporary work bridge was constructed each season to facilitate the construction of seven coffer dams and piers, the placement of bridge girders, deck forms, reinforcing steel and pouring of the concrete bridge deck and rail for each half of the bridge. Protected species during construction included the bald eagle, interior least tern, piping plover, pallid sturgeon, lake sturgeon, sturgeon chub and river otter.

Rehabilitation of the existing southbound US-75 Platte River Bridge included concrete deck and rail repair, replacement of all expansion joints, new pavement approaches and sand blasting the girder pin and hanger systems. Seven additional bridges were constructed including Bay Road over US-75, Bay Road over Union Pacific Railroad, US-75 over Union Pacific Railroad, northbound and southbound US-75 over Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad, and



Photo by Jay Bailey

Tim Weander, NDOR District 2 Engineer, and Chris Hawkins, Hawkins Construction Company, cut the ribbon on November 6 for the official opening of the new US-75 and Bay Road Interchange, as officials from the city of Plattsmouth, Plattsmouth Chamber of Commerce and Greater Omaha Economic Development looked on.

northbound and southbound US-75 twin slab bridges over a drainage ditch.

Many Involved

In addition to the prime contractor, Hawkins Construction Company, subcontractors involved with the project included: Pink Grading, Inc.; Heimes Corp. and Combined Affiliates; River City Barricade Company, Inc.; Cramer & Associates., Inc.; McGill Restoration, Inc.; Midwest Fence Company; Guardrail Systems, Inc.; Trafcon, Inc.; Watts Electric Company; Garcia-Chicoine Enterprises, Inc.; Linhart Construction, Inc.; Constructors, Inc.; Dustrol, Inc.; Horizontal Boring & Tunneling Company; John M. O'Dell & Co.; Iowa Bridge & Culvert; L.C., Iron Works, Inc.; Simplex Construction Supplies, Inc.; McArdle Grading Company; D&D Construction and Environmental Services, Inc.; Legrande Excavating, Inc.; and Hansen Construction Company.

NDOR inspectors for this project included Pat Eisenmenger, Kyle Parsons, Chris Hansen, Mike

Hanzlik, Damion Stern and Barb Gerbino-Bevins. Survey coordinator was Jeff Girton. Survey crew leaders included Bob Ecklund, Andrew Beavers and Ben Beavers. Survey crew members included Nassa Anselme, Mike Blankman, Bryce Holmes, Oscar Hounsougbin, Paula Pogge, Kim Schlegelmilch, Mike Staton and Buay Wiyual.

NDOR project managers for this project were Rick Fisher and Mike Fox, both of Omaha. Olsson Associates of Omaha and NDOR's Steve Rader provided oversight on the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). NDOR's Syed Ataulah, Tony Kessler and Wahed Hassani, Dawn Knott, Dan Foreman and Mike Owen managed the design by HDR, Inc. of Omaha.

Right-of-way appraisal work was done by Jim Hunter, Joel Walker and Tim Lentz. Negotiations were done by Anne Christensen, George Howard, Leslie Muehlich, Tom Manning, Todd Muehlich and Joey Kramer. Right-of-way designers were Kurt Svoboda, Janice Svoboda, Brent Greever and Steve Oforah. ♦



US-34 Bridge over Missouri River adds Transportation Link to I-29

On October 22, officials dedicated a new \$61 million bridge carrying US-34 over the Missouri River north of Plattsmouth, linking Iowa and Nebraska.

The 3,276-foot-long, four-lane bridge, a joint project between the Iowa Department of Transportation and the Nebraska Department of Roads, took years of study and nearly three years to build.

The concrete and steel span is part of a newly relocated section of US-34 that runs from US-75 just south of Offutt Air Force Base to I-29 near Glenwood, Iowa. Drivers will now have an alternative to the winding route that required paying a toll at Plattsmouth.

Completion of the bridge project not only allows for ease of travel between Iowa and Nebraska for motorists, but it supports future economic development between the states as well. Iowa Governor Terry Branstad and Nebraska Governor Dave Heineman spoke at the dedication ceremony, then drove across the new bridge.

Included in the project is a newly relocated section of US-34 from I-29 to US-75 in Nebraska. The new route

consists of approximately seven miles of newly constructed four-lane divided highway extending west of the US-34/I-29 interchange (exit 35) to US-75 located between Plattsmouth and Bellevue. New overhead bridges, ramps and loops were also included in the project that began in 2011. The Roads Department completed the work in Nebraska in 2013. The

3,276-foot-long by 89-foot-wide US-34 bridge took two years and 10 months to complete.

In all, the project cost \$115 million, with 80 percent of the project paid with federal money, with Nebraska and Iowa each picking up 10 percent. Nebraska's share of the new US-75/34 intersection and bridge approach was \$24 million. ♦



Photos by Jay Bailey

A new \$61 million, 3,276-foot-long, four-lane bridge carrying US-34 over the Missouri River north of Plattsmouth was dedicated on October 22. Governor Dave Heineman, left, and Roads Director Randy Peters spoke at the ceremony.

Fullerton South Hwy. Relocation Project Completion Welcomed

A new, realigned Loup River Bridge on N-14 south of Fullerton, which replaced the original bridge built 57 years ago, was part of the recently completed highway improvement project extending from the Fullerton city limits 4.5 miles south to the Nance/Merrick county line. A.M. Cohron & Son, Inc. of Atlantic City, Iowa, was the prime contractor.

According to Nebraska Department of Roads Project Manager Richard Kwiatkowski, work on the \$7.2 million project involved 1.05 miles of 9-inch by 28-foot doweled concrete pavement, replacing and realigning the Loup River Bridge and a portion of N-14 and improving drainage, including relocation of an intermittent stream channel located approximately 1/3 mile south of the Loup River Bridge.

Construction on the project began May 21, 2012, with erosion control, followed by culverts and grading. Work on the bridges started on June 26, 2012, with construction of a cofferdam at Pier No. 1 on the Loup River Bridge. The bridges, roadway and a temporary road were opened to traffic on November 14, 2013. Remaining paving, seeding and other incidentals were finished in the spring and summer of 2014, with final completion on September 18.

New Alignment

The original Loup River Bridge, built in 1955, and located just south of Fullerton on N-14, was a 26-foot-wide by 771-foot-long welded plate girder bridge. It was replaced with a new 36-foot-wide, 820-foot-long bridge with a wider surface and shoulders. The bridge was constructed on new alignment 84 feet downstream of the original structure and is three feet higher due to ice jams occurring on this stretch of the Loup River in the winter. The project utilized approximately 114,550 cubic yards of excavated soil to construct the fills



Photo by Chris Kolb, Nebraska State Patrol

Aerial view of old and new bridges over the Loup River on N-14 south of Fullerton. The recently completed bridge was constructed on new alignment 50 feet downstream of the original structure, built in 1955.

for the new roadway alignment. A new 50-foot overflow bridge replaced the existing culvert located one-third mile south of the Loup River.

According to Kwiatkowski, the new Loup River Bridge has 164-foot, 4-inch NU 2000 girders, weighing 160,543 pounds per girder, used in spans 2, 3 and 4 and 158-foot, 2-inch NU girders, weighing 151,669 pounds per girder, used in spans 1 and 5. Because of the overall length of 220 feet, the girders had to be transported on a semi tractor-trailer out of Omaha at night and unloaded by two heavy cranes.

Kwiatkowski noted the paving contractor, Gehring Construction, used stringless subgrade trimming, paving tining and curing. This involved a computerized 3D control system on the paving machine that communicated with GPS instruments through a control area network to collect machine position information, and

then relayed the information to the machine controller. Elimination of conventional staking reduced cost and made it quicker to move in and out of the paving project, decreasing the total time required for completion.

Temporary Bridge

Environmental requirements meant the bridge had to be constructed from a temporary bridge and no causeway in the river was allowed. The temporary bridge was first built out from the south bank, could only extend out approximately half way across the channel and then had to be withdrawn and built out from the north bank after the south half was constructed. This meant that the superstructure of the temporary bridge had to be removed and reconstructed two times to allow for construction of the new bridge and then removal of the old bridge.

(see Fullerton on next page)

Fullerton (cont'd. from page 7)

Those involved with the environmental aspects of the project are as follows: USDA Wildlife Biologist Dionne Gioia; John Snowden, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; and JEO Natural Resources Specialist Adam Rupe, who conducted Environmental Compliance Oversight Inspections. Others from NDOR included District 4 Environmental Manager Trudy Soll; Highway Environmental Section Manager Jason Jurgens, along with section members Ron Poe, Melissa Marinovich, Nick Soper, Ashley Grossenbacher and Gabe Robertson.

Additional right-of-way was purchased for the centerline shift, borrow and for establishment of mitigation areas. Right-of-way appraisal work was done by Mark Lorenz and Bob Fischer. Negotiations were done by Todd Muehlich and Anne Christensen. Right-of-way designers were Kurt Svoboda, Karla Smith, Kelly Behlen and Eileen O'Keefe.

Project Partnering

According to Kwiatkowski, partnering was used throughout the project with contractors, NDOR project managers and inspectors, environmental and others meeting approximately bi-monthly to discuss any issues and upcoming scheduled work.

Doug Williams was the contractor's project manager and Jason Lett was the contractor's superintendent for A.M. Cohron & Son, Inc. Richard



Photo by Trudy Soll, District 4

A 164-foot 4-inch-long girder, used in the Loup River Bridge on N-14 south of Fullerton, shown loaded behind a semi tractor-trailer arriving at the bridge site and preparing to be off loaded.

Kwiatkowski, of St. Paul, was NDOR's project manager and John Graff was the lead inspector, assisted by Rodney Wilson. Calvin Splattsoesser was the District 4 Quality Control Manager. Jeremy Weigel, Hwy. Quality Assurance Manager, and Tim Krasen, Hwy. Materials & Test Manager, provided assistance. District 4 Engineer Wes Wahlgren and District 4 Construction Engineer Keith Meyer were also involved with the project.

Subcontractors for the project included Kevin Gehring of Gehring Construction for the concrete pavement items, Hooker Brothers for the grading, Garcia Chicoine for rumble strips and guardrail, John Odell and crew for the seeding and erosion control, and Midwest Fencing for fence at the mitigation areas. All Roads Barricades took care of the

signing and traffic control. Contractor staking was done by JEO Consulting Group.

Reliable Link

NDOR designers for the project were Dan Rea and Ted Reinwald, Roadway Design; and Dan Foreman, Right-of-Way. Bridge plans were prepared in the NDOR Bridge office, with bridge design by Steve Sabra and Max Antoine. Mark Borgmann was the bridge fabrication specialist.

Describing what this new improvement means for the traveling public, District 4 Engineer Wes Wahlgren noted, "The new bridge and surrounding concrete pavement is the crowning jewel of all of the recent projects on the N-14 corridor. It will provide a reliable link across the wide Loup River for the next 50 to 100 years." ♦



We Get Mail...

The Department of Roads receives numerous complimentary letters. The letters printed here are representative of those often sent praising the many fine and deserving employees of the Department of Roads.

November 4, 2014

Just a note to let you know that I signed on to the 511 weather information page this morning. First time this year and was pleasantly surprised.

This page is well designed and has valuable information for the traveling public. It is easy to navigate around and the cameras are a big improvement.

I like 511 a lot. Good job Nebraska Department of Roads.

Bev and John Stahl

Are You Ready for Winter Weather?

The Nebraska Department of Roads' crews are prepared for snowplow season. Workers and equipment will be out to clear the highways and will be monitoring changing conditions on the state's highways throughout the winter season. Motorists should be prepared too.

Know Before You Go!

For 24-hour-a-day, year-round Nebraska road condition and traveler information, the following options are available:

- **Phone** - dial 511 from a cell phone or landline; if outside Nebraska, dial 800-906-9069
- **Web** - www.roads.nebraska.gov, www.511.nebraska.gov or <http://www.roads.nebraska.gov/videos.html>
- **Mobile App** - download at the Apple or Google Play stores; search for "Nebraska 511"

Watch Out

Snowplows cause soft snow to swirl. It can become difficult to see a plow, or for the plow operator to see you. Drive with your low-beam headlights on in rain, snow and fog. Make sure your headlights, taillights,

and windows are clean and clear of snow, so you can see and be seen.

When traveling outside of a business or residential district, it is unlawful to follow a highway maintenance vehicle (snowplow, truck, or grader) more closely than 100 feet when it is plowing snow, spreading salt or sand, or displaying a flashing amber or blue light. If conditions permit, however, drivers may carefully pass a maintenance vehicle.

Beware of icy spots when driving, especially on bridges and in sheltered areas. Drive at a reduced speed and allow plenty of distance for reacting to traffic. Slow down gradually when approaching curves, intersections and when turning in to businesses and driveways.

Motorists may use studded snow tires in Nebraska from November 1 to April 1. School buses, emergency vehicles, and mail carrier vehicles may use them anytime during the year.

Make sure everyone in a motor vehicle wears a seat belt and children are in a car safety seat. Do not use cruise control in wet or snowy weather and do keep your gas tank full. ♦

Winter Weather Words to Know

Winter Storm Watch –

A winter storm is possible or approaching.

Winter Storm Warning –

A winter storm is imminent.

Snow Advisory –

One to five inches is expected.

Blowing and Drifting Snow Advisory –

Visibility can be at or below a quarter mile.

Wind Chill Advisory –

Wind chills of -30 to -35 are expected.

Freezing Rain/Sleet Advisory –

An accumulation of freezing rain or sleet could make exposed surfaces dangerous or cause damage.

Travel Not Advised –

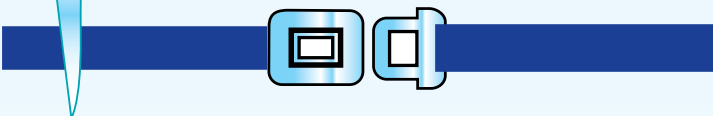
The Nebraska State Patrol, the Nebraska Department of Roads and local emergency responders warn motorists not to enter highways, roads, or streets after this advisory has been issued as hazardous conditions have been reported.

Road Closed –

If the State Patrol or Nebraska Department of Roads show a state highway or any part of the Interstate as "Closed" on their Advanced Traveler Information System (ATIS) and/or on the 511 road conditions reporting system – this means the highway or the Interstate is *officially closed to traffic* – until the "Closure" is removed from the reporting system.

**Ice and snow...
take it slow**

**Drive Carefully and
Wear Your Safety Belt!**



New Features for Nebraska 511 Website Plus an App

The Nebraska Department of Roads' 511 Advanced Traveler Information System has been updated to provide a more current and enhanced product for the public with new features that will assist commuters, truckers, and travelers along Nebraska's highway system.

There are now three options for 24-hour-a-day, year-round Nebraska road condition and traveler information—phone, website, and a new app.

The 511 phone system is using a new system and no longer provides the weather report. To access 511 via a cell phone or landline, dial 511. If outside of Nebraska, dial 800-906-9069.

The 511 website can be accessed on the Nebraska Department of Roads' home page www.roads.nebraska.gov or

www.511.nebraska.gov. The 511 website provides you with road conditions, cameras, weather information, and now an additional layer called traffic speeds which colors the roadways to show speeds (fast through slow) to indicate a slowdown in real-time. It now offers different versions based on your Internet connection—full featured for a high-speed Internet connection, streamlined for a low-bandwidth Internet connection, and mobile for smartphones and tablets. The mobile version is primarily a text-based version with images for the cameras. Another new feature of the 511 website is the option to create an account which allows you to create and save routes and then schedule alerts along selected routes.

The alerts can be in the form of a text message to your cell phone or an email.

Nebraska 511 now has an app that works on smartphones and tablets operating on the Apple and Android platforms. Visit the App Store or Google Play and search for Nebraska 511.

Remember, the primary responsibility of every driver is the safe operation of his/her vehicle. Do not rely on the Nebraska 511 information as the sole basis for travel decisions. Before you travel in bad weather, check several resources to gather as much information as possible about the weather and road conditions. You alone are responsible for making the final decision to travel during periods of bad weather. ♦

Governor Recognizes NDOR Employees and Managers of the Year

Ten NDOR employees were recognized by Governor Dave Heineman for their accomplishments as Employee of the Year and Supervisor/Manager of the Year. They joined outstanding state employees from other state agencies during recognition ceremonies held on October 28 at the State Capitol Rotunda.

Those receiving Employee of the Year awards: **Alex Arthur**, D6, Highway Construction Technician III; **Susan Busch**, D3, Staff Assistant I; **Jim Pester**, Communication Division, Artist II; **Thomas Sievers**, D3, Highway Maintenance Crew Chief; **Amy Wattier**, D3, Highway Construction Technician III.

Those receiving Manager of the Year awards: **Jeffrey Francis**, D3, Highway Project Manager; **Diane Holthus**, Human Resources, Personnel Manager I; **Susie Kalkwarf**, Communication Division, Word Processing Supervisor III; **Kari Ruse**, Rail & Public Transportation Division, Highway Liaison Manager; **Ron Slepicka**, Roadway Design Division, Highway Geodetic Crew Supervisor.

Each year, agencies select one non-management/nonsupervisory employee per 500 from their agency and one supervisor or manager per 500 from their agency whose job performance has exceeded the highest standards and contributed to the overall effectiveness of their agency. Congratulations to these outstanding NDOR employees. ♦



Alex Arthur



Susan Busch



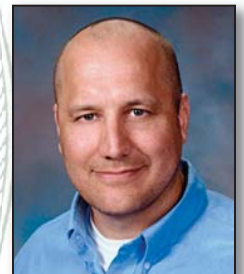
Jim Pester



Thomas Sievers



Amy Wattier



Jeffrey Francis



Diane Holthus



Susie Kalkwarf



Kari Ruse



Ron Slepicka



NDOR 2014





All in the Family

Information for "All in the Family" should be sent to the Communication Division. Appropriate information will be included in future Roadrunners.

Please note: Birth announcements will be published as long as written permission is received by the Communication Division. This is necessary, as NDOR is required to adhere to privacy laws under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

Condolences

Condolences to Joey Kramer on the passing of her mother-in-law. Joey is a Hwy. Right-of-Way Project Manager.

Condolences to Terry O'Neel on the passing of his mother. Terry is an IT Infrastructure Support Analyst Sr. at District 4 in Grand Island.

District 6 sends condolences to Dave Shafer on the loss of his mother. Dave is an Automotive/Diesel Mechanic at District 6 in Big Springs. And to Roger Klasna on the loss of his father. Roger is the District Operations and Maintenance Manager in North Platte.

Condolences to Marty and Brenda Graff on the passing of his father. Brenda is a Highway Maintenance Worker at District 8 in Ainsworth.

Births

Congratulations to Cody and Sarah Lusero on the birth of their first son Everett Jaxson, born November 7. Cody is a QA Analyst in Business Technology Support.

Congratulations to Cole and Megan Davison on the birth of their daughter, Mallory Joan, born October 27. Cole is Data/Database Analyst Sr. in Business Technology Support.

Congratulations to Jacki and Francis Schrotberger on the birth of their first grandchild, Donald Wayne, born November 20. Jacki is an Administrative Assistant in Right-of-Way.

Congratulations to Luke and Chelsea Savory on the birth of their baby boy Jotham Dean on October 23. Luke is an Electronics Technician Sr. at District 6 in North Platte.

Congratulations to Marve and Pam Schmitz on the birth of their granddaughter, Alyvia Delphine, born October 21. Pam is a Construction Tech III at District 8 in Ainsworth.

This 'n That

Congratulations to Pat Hafer on her retirement after 18 years of service. Pat was Secretary I in Right-of-Way.

Congratulations to Lois Danico on her retirement after 36 years of service. Lois was a Hwy. Fleet Fuel & Credit Card System Manager in Operations.

Congratulations to Lyle Kohmetscher on his retirement after 46 years of service. Lyle was Hwy. Project Manager at District 4 in Hastings.

Congratulations to Rick Springer on his retirement December 31, 2014 after 31 years of service as a Highway Maintenance Worker Sr. at District 6 in North Platte. Best wishes from District 8 to Jay Gustafson who is retiring December 31 after 46 years at NDOR. Jay is a Project Manager at District 8 in Valentine.

Congratulations to Dillon Byre, who recently completed a 5-3 season playing as a guard and a tackle for the Lincoln Southwest High School Freshman Football Team. Dillon is the son of Dale Byre, Jr., Quality Assurance Manager in Materials & Research.

Seasons Greetings

Service Awards

Congratulations to these dedicated individuals for their work and continued service with the Department of Roads. They celebrate their service dates in *December 2014 and January 2015*.

40 Years

Lee Kleeb, District 8

30 Years

Mark Borgmann, Bridge
Josephine Domenge, District 2
Susan Hoover, District 8
John Schneider, District 4
Catherine Wrich, District 2

20 Years

Larry Bergmeier, Operations
Kathilene Clyde, District 8
Joellen Edgington, District 2
Troy Lytle, District 1
Terry O'Neel, District 4
James Wilkinson, Planning & Proj. Dev.

10 Years

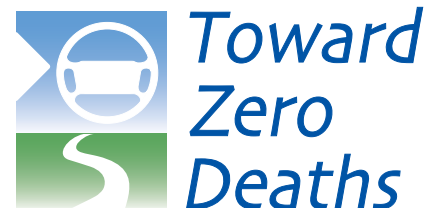
Ronnie Carlson, District 4
Michael Handzlik, District 2
Robert Kiolbasa, District 7
Justin Morrell, District 6
Richard Pearce, District 4
Jess Ravenscroft, District 8
Kenneth Wellman, District 1

Holiday Safety Quiz

Do you know how to stay safe during the holidays? Find out with this quiz!

1. Lighted candles on a tree are okay as long as someone is home. *True or false*
2. How many Americans are killed each year from holiday fires?
(a) About 1,200
(b) 800
(c) Over 400
(d) Approximately 200
3. Candles should be placed at least two feet away from flammable materials. *True or false*
4. Tacks and nails should not be used to put up lights. *True or false*
5. Approximately 1.9 million injuries occur as a result of _____ each holiday season.
(a) Fires
(b) Falls
(c) Food poisoning
(d) Snow tubing
6. New lights have no need to be checked for frayed wires or loose connections. *True or false*

(See answers on next page)



NDOR Events Calendar

— December —

National Drunk & Drugged Driving Prevention Month

5 RoadToasters Holiday Meeting
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., NDOR Auditorium
Contact Glenn Williams @ 402-479-3628

12 Hwy. Commission Meeting
8:30 a.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Sarah Kugler @ 402-479-4871

12/12 - 1/1 You Drink & Drive. You Lose. Crackdown

17 RoadToasters
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Glenn Williams @ 402-479-3628

18 Letting
1:30 p.m., NDOR Auditorium
Contact Kendall Stege @ 402-479-4528

22 Blood Drive – Community Blood Bank
NDOR Central Headquarters
Contact Diane Holthus @ 402-479-4580

25 State Holiday – Christmas

— January —

1 State Holiday – New Year's

6 New Employee Orientation Program
Rm. 152, 5001 S. 14th (the "Hill")
Contact Denise Sears @ 402-479-3656

14 RoadToasters
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Glenn Williams @ 402-479-3628

16 Bd. Public Roads Class & Stds.
9:00 a.m., NDOR Auditorium, Lincoln
Contact LeMoyne Schulz @ 402-479-4436

19 State Holiday – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

23 Hwy. Commission Meeting
8:30 a.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Sarah Kugler @ 402-479-4871

23 Bd. Examiners for Co. Hwy. & City Street Supts.
10:00 a.m., NDOR Mat'l's. & Research Conference Rm. 129
Contact LeMoyne Schulz @ 402-479-4436

28 RoadToasters
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Glenn Williams @ 402-479-3628

— February —

5 Letting
1:30 p.m., NDOR Auditorium
Contact Kendall Stege @ 402-479-4528

11 RoadToasters
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Glenn Williams @ 402-479-3628

16 State Holiday – Presidents' Day

20 Bd. Public Roads Class & Stds.
9:00 a.m., NDOR Auditorium, Lincoln
Contact LeMoyne Schulz @ 402-479-4436

20 Bd. Examiners for Co. Hwy. & City Street Supts.
10:00 a.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact LeMoyne Schulz @ 402-479-4436

22-28 National Engineers Week

25 RoadToasters
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Glenn Williams @ 402-479-3628

If you would like a key event included on upcoming calendars, call the Communication Office 479-4512 or e-mail linda.wilson@nebraska.gov. Information for the February/March Roadrunner should be received by January 28, 2015.

Holiday Safety Quiz answers
1. False. Lighted candles should never be on a tree.
2. (c) Over 400
3. False. Candles should be placed at least three feet away.
4. True. Use hooks or insulated staples instead.
5. (c) Falls
6. False. New lights do need to be checked.

